

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 FBIE-00 SS-20

CPR-02 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 SY-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 USSS-00 NSC-07 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 A-01

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R 201222Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9904

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0482

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT US

1. ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VERNON MWAANGA SUMMONED ME MARCH 19 TO SAY HE PLANNED TRAVEL TO THE US FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA, ARRIVING NEW YORK APRIL 7 AND REMAINING IN US FOR MORE THAN ONE WEEK. SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM'S INVITATION IN HIS LETTER OF FEB 1 AND HOPED FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIM "AND OTHERS IN DEPT" DURING HIS US VISIT.

2. MWAANGA SAID HE WOULD BE DEPARTING ZAMBIA MARCH 30 FOR KAMPALA FOR OAU COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. FROM THERE HE GOES TO LONDON APRIL 4 - 5 WHERE HE HAS AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH THE NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY JAMES CALLAGHAN. FOLLOWING ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK APRIL 6, HE WILL ATTEND MEETING OF NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS APRIL 8.

3. SUGGESTED APRIL 12 OR APRIL 15 AS POSSIBLE DATES FOR WASHINGTON VISIT AND MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM AND "OTHERS," AS MWAANGA PUT IT. ALTHOUGH HE
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DID NOT SPECIFICALLY REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE

SECRETARY HE WAS DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE DR. KISSINGER'S LETTER OF MARCH 9 WHICH I PRESENTED AT OUTSET OF MEETING. WE MUST ASSUME HE IS HOPING FOR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY IN VIEW OF HIS APPOINTMENT WITH CALLAGHAN IN LONDON, AND WE WOULD HOPE TIME COULD BE FOUND IN SECRETARY'S BUSY SCHEDULE.

4. FROM WASHINGTON MWAANGA SAID HE WILL GO DIRECTLY TO JAMAICA TO MEET WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY. AFTER BRIEF VISIT THERE HE WILL RETURN TO ZAMBIA IN LATE APRIL.

5. MWAANGA SAID HE HAD AN INVITATION TO VISIT RUSSIA IN MAY WHICH HE INDICATED HE WOULD ACCEPT. SUBSEQUENTLY WE LEARNED HE WILL PREPARE FOR VISIT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA TO USSR LATER THIS YEAR.

6. I HAVE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT MWAANGA'S PATTERN OF FOREIGN VISITS -- CHINA, MIDDLE EAST, OAU, UK, UN, US AND RUSSIA IS IMPORTANT CONTEXT FOR HIM IN FIXING HIS SIGHTS AND PRIORITIES IN THE EARLY PERIOD OF HIS INCUMBENCY AS FOREIGN MINISTER. WOULD HOPE APPOINTMENTS CAN BE MADE FOR SUGGESTED DATES OF WASHINGTON VISIT. MWAANGA MAY HAVE SOME FLEXIBILITY BEFORE OR AFTER JAMAICA VISIT IF THERE IS TIGHTNESS IN SCHEDULING ON US SIDE. WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT DEPT'S PLANNING FOR MWAANGA VISIT WOULD ACCOMMODATE HIS GRACIOUS OFFER TO BRIEF US SINOLOGISTS ON PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S CHINA TRIP (SEPTTEL).
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